

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/775,406

Examiner

James L. Habermehl

Applicant(s)

MEYER, DALLAS W.

Art Unit

2627

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment filed 31 Mar 06.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-8 and 26-28, renumbered 1-11 respectively.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
(a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
(b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

1. This Office action is in response to amendments filed 13 Mar 06 and 31 Mar 06, which papers have been placed of record in the file.

2. Applicant's confirmation of election of claims 1-8, 16-21, and 26-28 in the reply filed on 13 March 2006 is acknowledged. Because applicant did not distinctly and specifically point out the supposed errors in the restriction requirement, the election has been treated as an election without traverse (MPEP § 818.03(a)).

This application is in condition for allowance except for the presence of claims 9-15, 22-25, and 29-35 directed to an invention non-elected without traverse. Accordingly, claims 9-15, 22-25, and 29-35 have been cancelled.

3. Claims 1-8 and 26-28 are allowed over the prior art of record. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claims 1 and 26 are allowable over the prior art of record since the cited references taken individually or in combination fails to particularly disclose a method of calibrating the motion of a transducer in a magnetic storage device comprising positioning the transducer at a first vertical position and determining an infinite resistance value, contacting the medium surface with the transducer at a second vertical position and determining a contact resistance value, and iteratively adjusting the transducer body to position the transducer between the first and second vertical positions while passing over a plurality of ridges on the surface and measuring a resistance value for each iteration, as presented in the environment of claims 1 and 26. It is noted that the closest prior art, Li et al., shows a method of calibrating the motion of a transducer

Art Unit: 2627

in a magnetic storage device similar to applicant's invention. However, Li et al. fails to disclose positioning the transducer at a first vertical position and determining an infinite resistance value, contacting the medium surface with the transducer at a second vertical position and determining a contact resistance value, and iteratively adjusting the transducer body to position the transducer between the first and second vertical positions while passing over a plurality of ridges on the surface and measuring a resistance value for each iteration as claimed.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

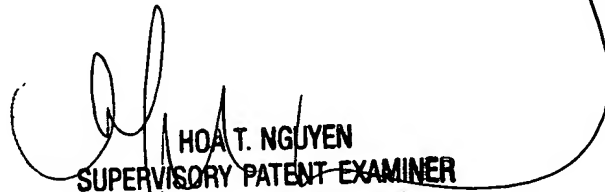
4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to James L. Habermehl whose telephone number is (571)272-7556. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Hoa Nguyen can be reached on (571)272-7579. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Habermehl/jlh
13 Apr 06



HOA T. NGUYEN
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600
4/15/06.